

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/688,417

Examiner

Alonzo Chambliss

Applicant(s)

NAJAFI ET AL.

Art Unit

2814

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the drawing replacement sheet filed on 2/28/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12 and 14-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 11/21/05 has been fully considered and made of record in the application.

Drawings

2. The replacement sheets filed on 11/21/05 and 2/28/06 have been approved by the examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Timothy J. Marsh on May 9, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN CLAIMS:

In claim 1, line 3, after " comprising: " insert -- providing a substrate having a first and second side; partially forming at least one hole in the first side of the substrate; --;

In claim 1, line 6, delete " forming at least one hole completely through the substrate between first and second sides of the substrate after the step of providing ";

In claim 1, line 9, delete " before the step of forming the at least one hole; and "
and insert instead – finish forming the at least one hole completely through the
substrate between the first and second sides of the substrate after the step of removing;
and --;

In claim 7, line 2, after " providing " insert -- a micromachined or MEMS device --;

In claim 7, lines 3 and 4, delete " and wherein the step of forming may include the
step of partially forming the at least one hole from the first side before the step of
bonding ";

In claim 8, line 2, before " forming " insert -- finish --.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Ma et al. (US 6,673,697) and Najafi et al. (US 6,338,284) both failed to disclose
partially forming at least one hole in the first side of the substrate.

The following is a statement of reason for the indication of allowance subject
matter: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the combination partially
forming at least one hole in the first side of the substrate and removing material from the
second side of the substrate to thin the substrate to finish forming the hole completely
along with the other limitations in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later
than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably
accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on
Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

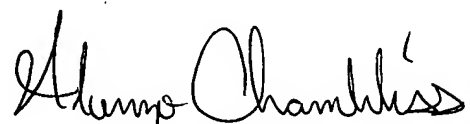
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Any inquiry concerning the communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alonzo Chambliss whose telephone number is (571) 272-1927.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-7956.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PMR only. For more information about the PMR system see <http://pair-dkect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PMR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or EBC_Support@uspto.gov.

AC/May 9, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alonzo Chambliss', with a stylized, cursive script.

Alonzo Chambliss
Primary Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2814

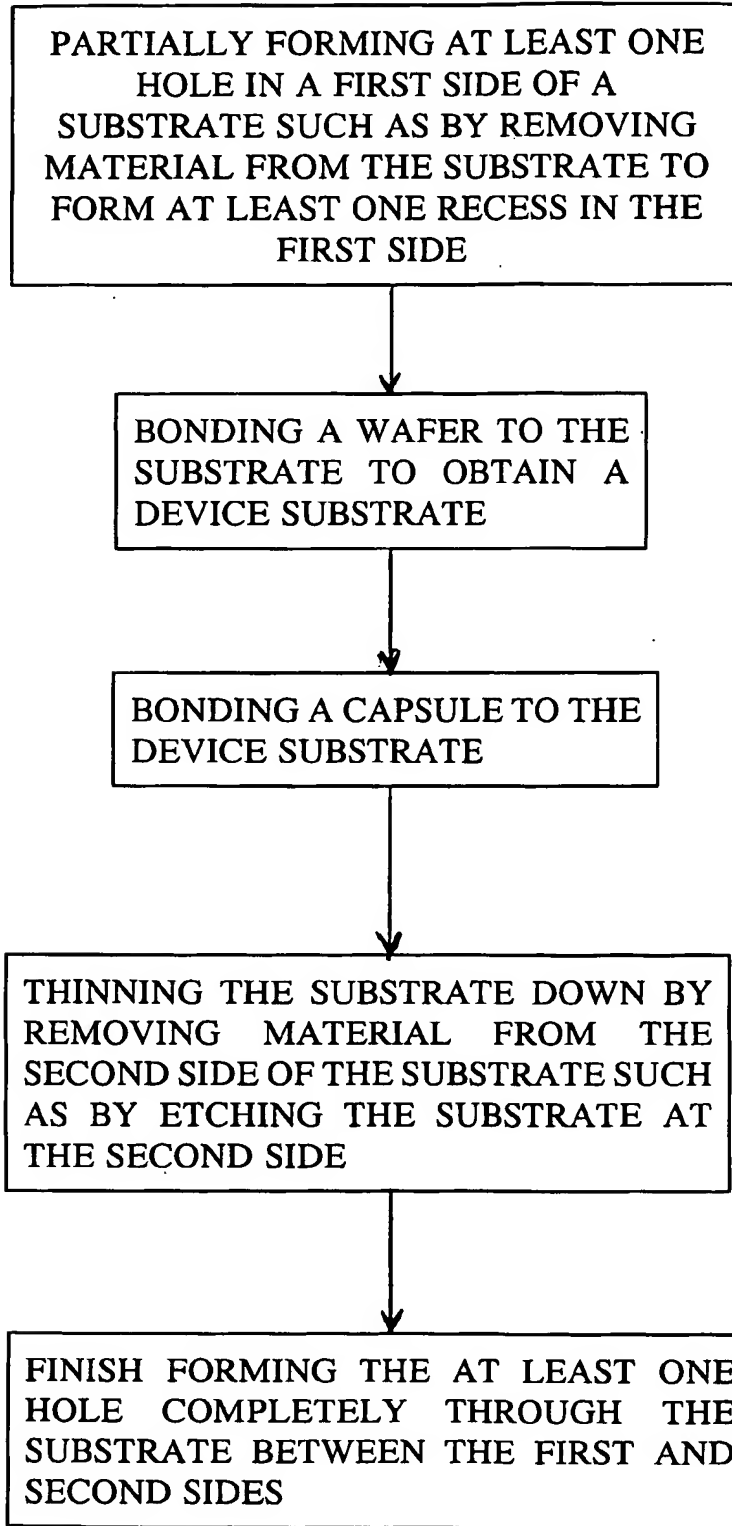


FIGURE 3

*Approved
AC
3/8/06*



2/2

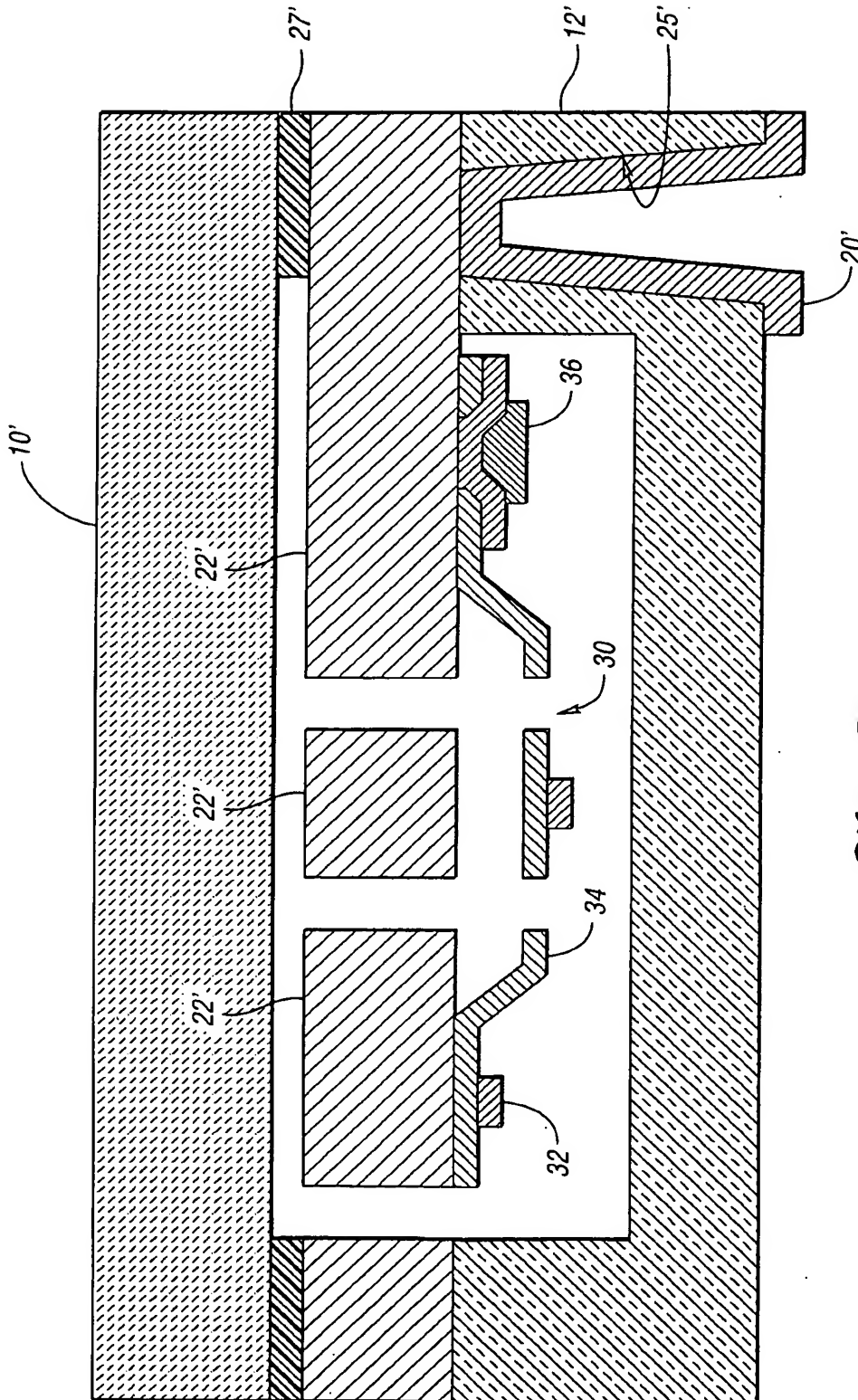


Fig. 2

Approved
AC
5/8/06